Incentives to labour intensive units in the country

423. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are providing incentives to labour intensive units in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) to (c) The labour laws do not differentiate between establishments on the basis of their labour intensity. However, according to information received from the Ministry of Finance, a certain specified goods are exempted from excise duty, if no process in the manufacture of these goods is carried out with the aid of power.

Rehabilitation of bonded labour

424. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bonded labour get freed in each State during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the manner in which they have been rehabilitated;

(c) in case the freed bonded labour have not yet been rehabilitated, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government have chalked out a programme for proper rehabilitation of freed bonded labour; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) to (e) In order to rehabilitate the identified bonded labour, the Government is implementing a Centrally sponsored scheme under which a rehabilitation grant of Rs. 20,000 per released bonded labour is provided. The rehabilitation grants are shared by the Central and State Governments concerned on 50:50 basis. In addition State Governments/UTs have been advised to dovetail the Centrally